

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing a fuel cell separator, comprising the steps of:

obtaining a mixture by mixing a thermoplastic resin and a conductive material, wherein the thermoplastic resin is a resin selected from the group consisting of: ethylene / vinyl acetate copolymers, ethylene / ethyl acrylate copolymers, straight-chain low-density polyethylene, polyphenylene sulfide and modified polyphenylene oxide, and wherein the conductive material includes carbon particles selected from the group consisting of black lead, Ketchen black and acetylene black;

forming with the mixture a separator starting material having gas flow passage grooves in a contact face thereof; and

irradiating the contact face of the separator starting material with an electron beam.

2 – 8 (Canceled)

9. (New) A method for manufacturing a fuel cell separator, comprising the

steps of:

obtaining a mixture by mixing

a thermoplastic resin selected from the group consisting of:

polyphenylene sulfide and modified polyphenylene oxide, and

particles of a conductive material selected from the group consisting of  
black lead, Ketchen black and acetylene black;

forming with the mixture a separator starting material having gas flow passage  
grooves in a contact face thereof; and

irradiating the contact face of the separator starting material with an electron  
beam.

10. (New) A method for manufacturing a fuel cell separator, comprising the  
steps of:

obtaining a mixture by mixing

a thermoplastic resin selected from the group consisting of: ethylene /  
vinyl acetate copolymers, ethylene / ethyl acrylate copolymers, straight-chain low-  
density polyethylene, polyphenylene sulfide and modified polyphenylene oxide, and

particles of a conductive material, wherein the conductive material is  
black lead;

forming with the mixture a separator starting material having gas flow passage  
grooves in a contact face thereof; and

irradiating the contact face of the separator starting material with an electron  
beam.

11. (New) The method for manufacturing a fuel cell according to claim 9, wherein the conductive material is black lead.

12. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the electron beam irradiation is performed with respect to only the contact face of the separator starting material.